

REMARKS

Applicants are incorporating the subject matter of claims 11 and 12 into claim 1, such that claim 1 as presently amended sets forth the subject matter of previously considered claim 12 in independent form, the subject matter being incorporated into claim 1 reciting a heating apparatus in light of prior recitation in claim 1 of a heating apparatus. In light of amendments to claim 1, claims 11 and 12 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 8 and 9 are also being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Moreover, to facilitate proceedings in connection with the above-identified application, claims 15-24 have also been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication in Item 6 on page 8 of the Office Action mailed December 23, 2005, that claim 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By the present amendments to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 now recites the subject matter of previously considered claim 12 in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as well as claims dependent thereon, which are all remaining claims in the application, should be allowed.

For completion of the record, the rejection of claims on prior art grounds, set forth in Items 3-5 on pages 2-8 of the Office Action mailed December 23, 2005, are noted, but are moot in light of present amendments to claim 1 as discussed previously.

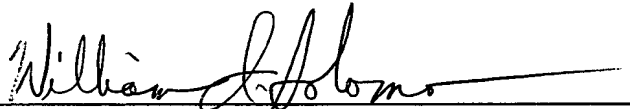
In view of the foregoing comments and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of all claims presently in the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (docket No. 503.36712VX1), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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